

Administrator,

Thank you for stopping by ORD's senior leadership meeting this week. We had a very productive conversation about the steps we need to take to make sure we are operating in the most efficient and impactful way to meet Administration priorities. In addition, our work on PFAS continues and we will be providing you with regular updates on our progress. Together with OW, OCIR, and other members of the cross-agency PFAS group, we are briefing bipartisan staff from the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee on PFAS this afternoon. The briefing will be an overview similar to the briefing we gave the Senate Appropriations Committee in early November.

Hot issues

Update to World Health Organization Recreational Water Guidelines

On January 24 and 25 in Geneva, Switzerland, ORD will provide expertise on the revisions to the World Health Organization Recreational Water Guidelines. The guidelines are intended for use as the basis for the development of international and national public health approaches (including standards and regulations) to control health risks in environmental recreational water and provide a framework for local decision making.

Upcoming Major Decisions and events

Helping Utah Protect the Great Salt Lake

On January 17 and 18 ORD will meet with state staff and others hosted by the Utah Department of Water Quality to address the state priority of improving water quality in the Willard Spur embayment, a coastal bay of the Great Salt Lake. ORD serves on the Willard Spur Science Panel, providing research to support Utah's goal of developing and promulgating water quality standards to protect the ecosystem from nutrient pollution and other stressors.

EPA Researchers Participate in NASA TEMPO Mission Video

ORD scientists were interviewed this week for an educational and public outreach video by NASA for its upcoming TEMPO (Tropospheric Emissions: Monitoring Pollution) Mission. TEMPO is an instrument that will be launched into geostationary orbit in 2018/2019 to monitor major air pollutants including ozone, NO₂, formaldehyde, PM and others across North America on an hourly basis. They talked about how the TEMPO mission can contribute to improved air quality monitoring and forecasting. ORD is a partner in this satellite mission and will be providing ground-based validation measurement support and applications development in preparation for the mission.

American Water Works Association (AWWA) webinar presentation

On January 17 ORD will present "Lead and Copper Corrosion 101: Principles and Guidance." This webinar will help participants better understand the factors influencing lead and copper corrosion and identify best practices and guidelines to minimize the potential for lead or copper release. Participants will primarily include member water utilities, consultants and private industry.

Working with the Minnesota Department of Health on rapid methods to evaluate chemical safety

On January 23, ORD will provide the Minnesota Department of Health (MN DOH) with an overview of our rapid exposure and dosimetry research. MN DOH has expressed interest in learning more about EPA's computational toxicology and exposure research, data and online tools to possibly use in their chemical risk assessments. MN DOH is particularly interested in assessing the risk of emerging drinking water contaminants.